

# S.S. ASTRO

Asashio Sogo Teachers Room

ASTRO

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Asashio Sogo  
Teachers Room

1

NEGI BANNO



US \$10.99  
CAN \$11.99  
UK £5.99

Ever wondered what goes on behind the closed doors of the teachers' lounge?

At Asashio High, the new school year brings new faces, both in the student body and on staff. The new crop of teachers are all former students, and it quickly becomes obvious they have yet to grow out of their hilariously juvenile ways. From romantic entanglements to otaku obsessions, these teachers just go to show that the fun doesn't have to end after high school!



OLDER TEEN  
OT  
LNSV

Yen  
Press

NEGI BANNO



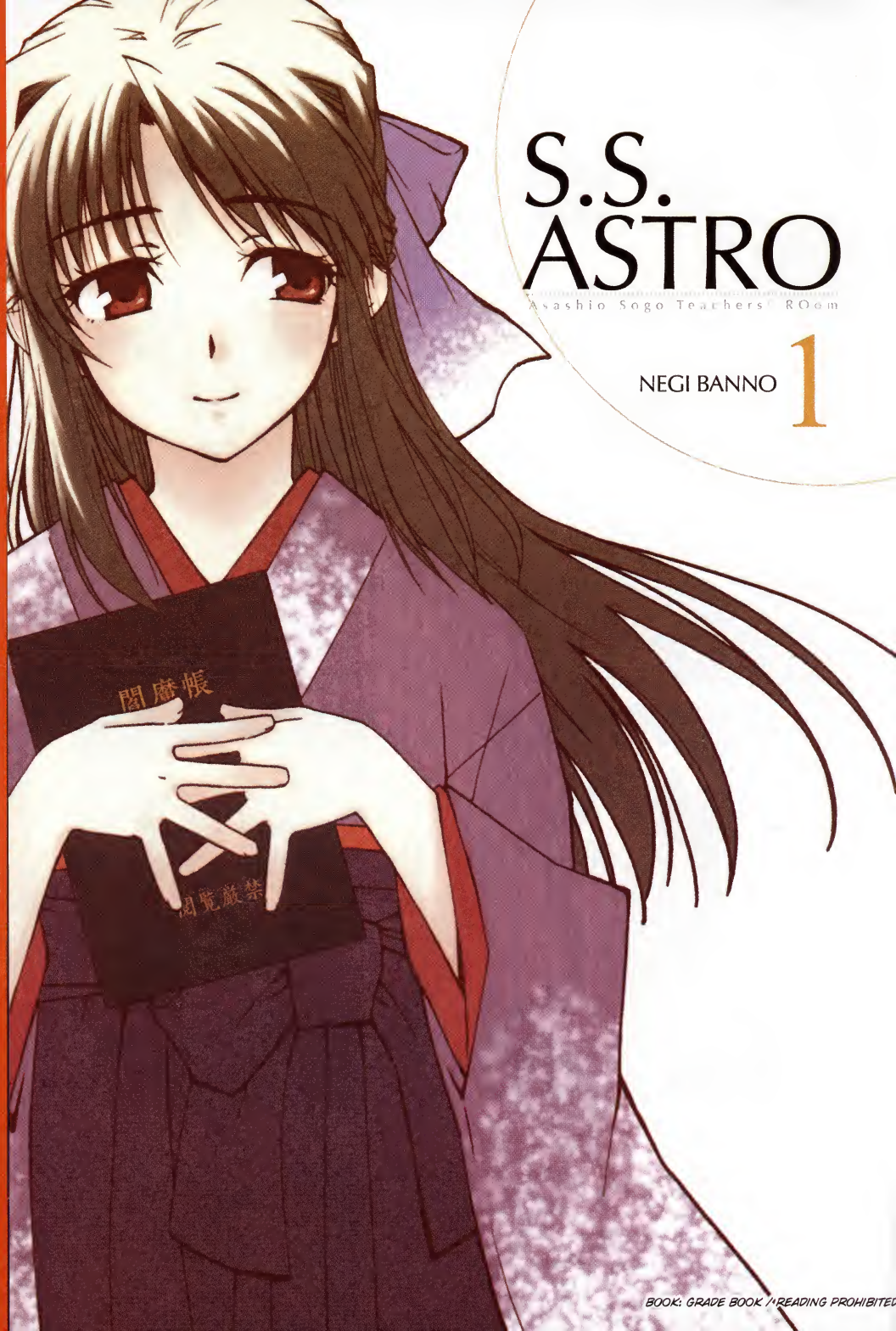


# S.S. ASTRO

Asashio Sogo Teachers' Room

NEGI BANNO

1





NAME ARAI, SETSUNA

KANJI 荒井 準名



JOB NURSING TEACHER

NOTE EVERYTHING IN MODERATION.



NAME MAKI, IZUMI

KANJI 牧 和泉



JOB PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

NOTE LET'S BE ADULTS.



NAME KARASUMA, KANAME

KANJI 烏丸 かなめ



JOB FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER

NOTE SETTLE DOWN, PEOPLE.



NAME NAGUMO, YUKO

KANJI 南雲 有子



JOB JAPANESE TEACHER

NOTE THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE  
SMELLS LIKE SOY SAUCE.



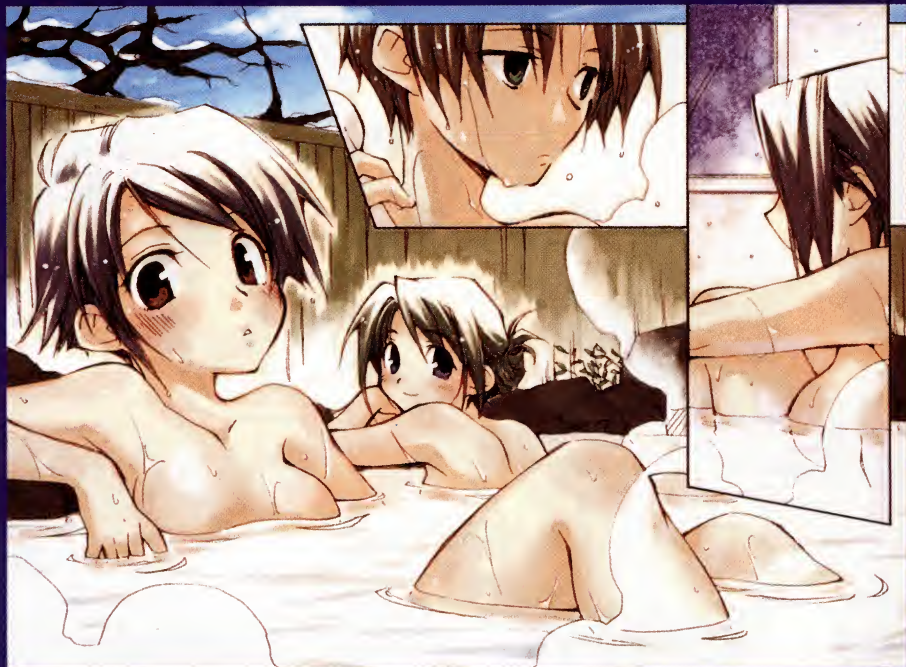
From Carat, Nov. 2005



S.S. ASTRO

From Carat, Jan. 2006

From Carat, Mar. 2006



From Carat, May 2006

S.S. ASTRO

Aschie Sage Teachers/ PCem



From Carat, Jul. 2006



S.S. ASTRO

Asashio Sogo Teachers' Room

From Carat, Sep. 2006





SIGNS: MONJAYAKI / ICE / BLUE NO. 1

From Comic Market 70 Illustration Collection



SIGNS: MANLY ROAST: ¥400 / MANLY ROAST: SHUT UP AND EAT IT.  
 SOBA NOODLES: YUMMY! / ¥400  
 BAG: SUPER FIREWORKS: ADULTS ONLY  
 BOXES: ALCOHOL IS ILLEGAL FOR MINORS TO CONSUME. / "BEER MY FRIEND"

S.S. ASTRO

Acahie Sogo Teachers' Room





Comic Market 70  
Limited Edition Bath Towel



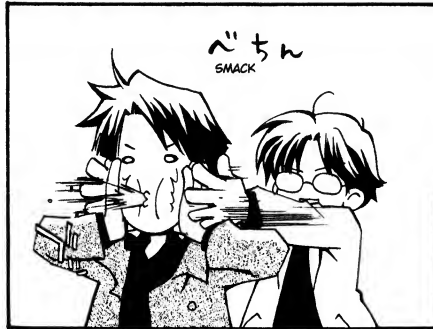
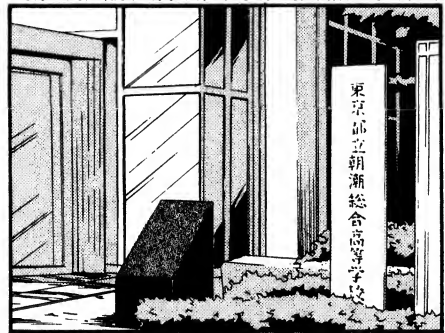
Color Illustration Collection

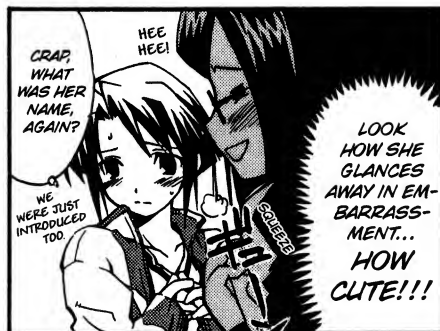
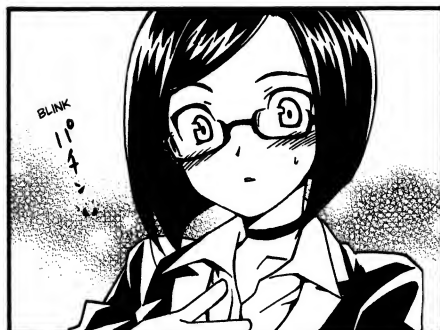
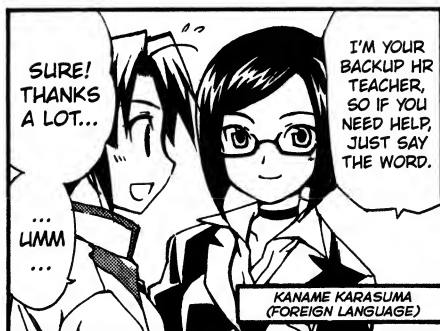
From Carat, Nov. 2006

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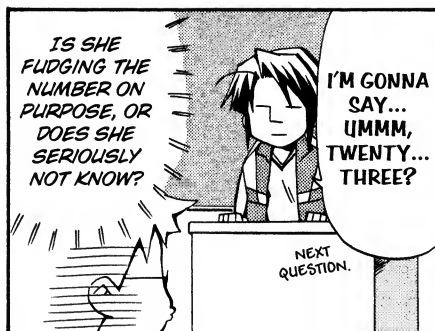


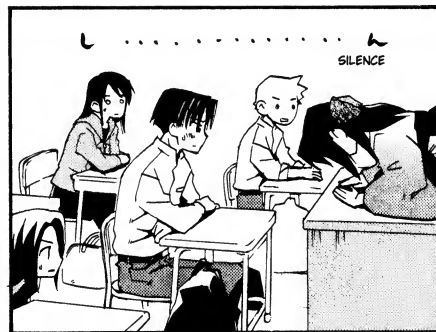
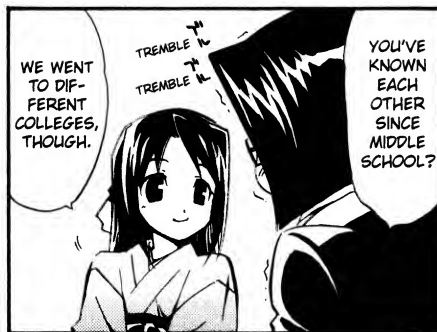
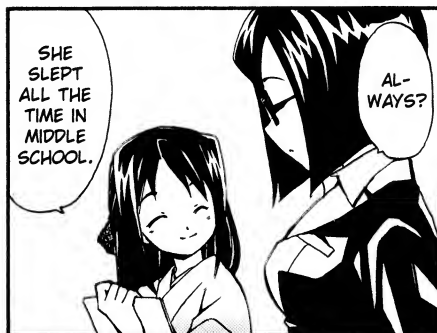


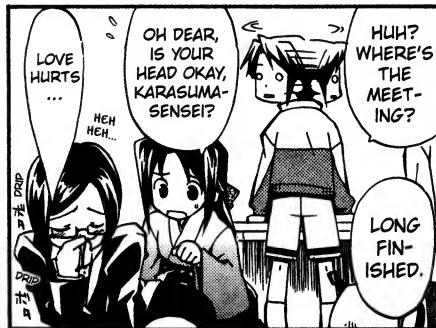
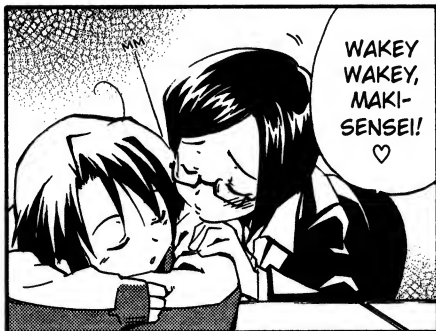
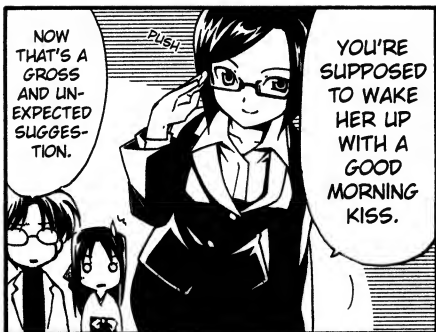






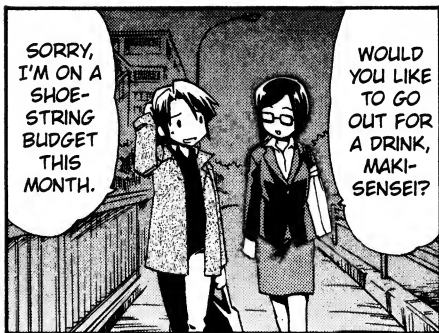


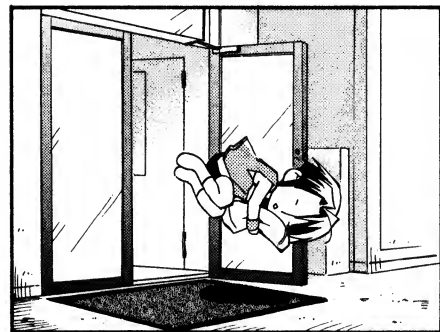




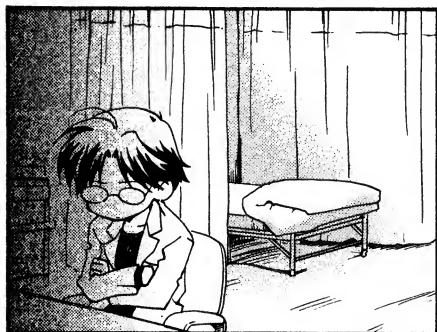






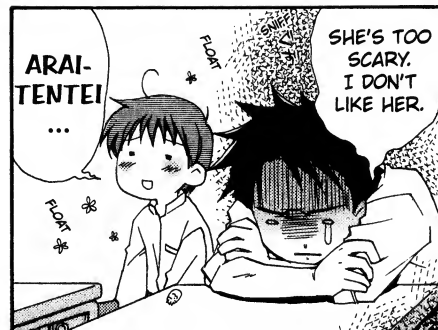
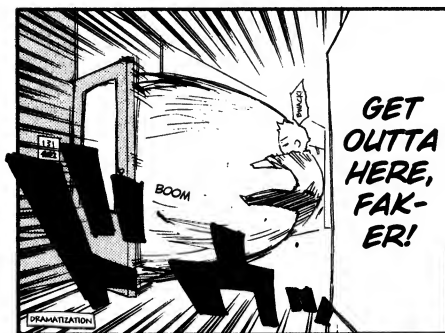


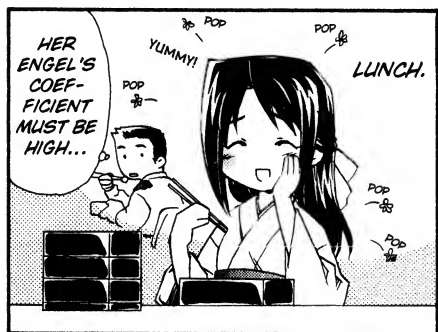
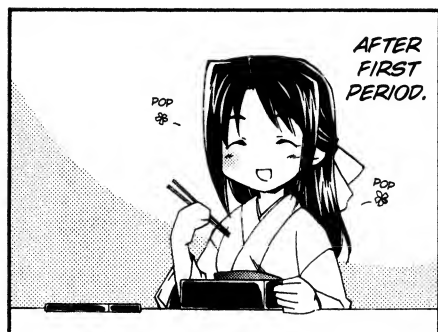




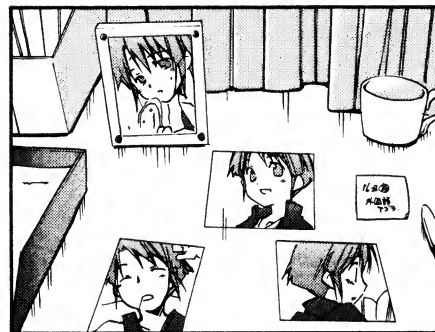
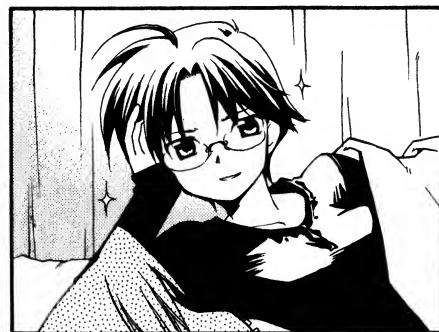


SIGN: NURSE'S OFFICE









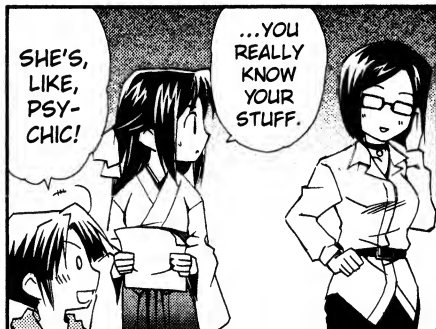
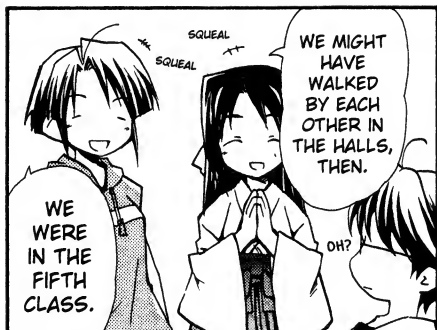
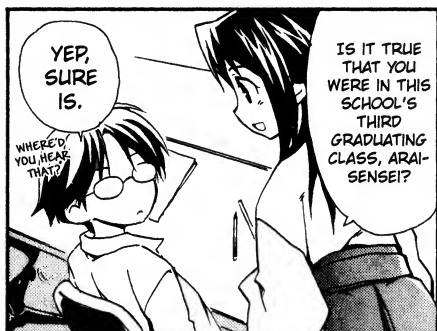




WRAPPER: NUMMY STICK SFX: RUSTLE









## IZUMI MAKI

CLASS: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

GENDER: FEMALE

PERSONALITY: CLOSET PERVERT

LEVEL: 3

E: JERSEY

E: WHISTLE

E: LOW-PRESSURE PILLOW

E: UMAA BO

(SKIN) HEALTH POINTS: SQUISHY

MENTAL POINTS: RELATIVELY NORMAL PERSON

STRENGTH: CAN'T KILL A BEAR

SPEED: THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW

STAMINA: PLENTY

INTELLIGENCE: GAVE UP

LUCK: ENOUGH TO BE THE MAIN CHARACTER

GUTS: HATES TO LOSE

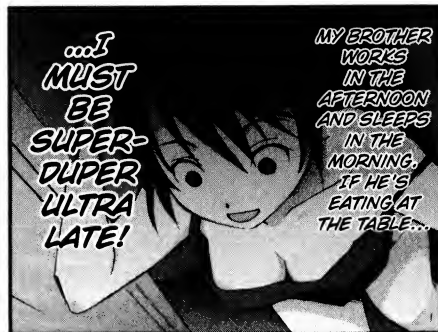
Y: ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET THIS MONTH...



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SFX: TREMBLE TREMBLE

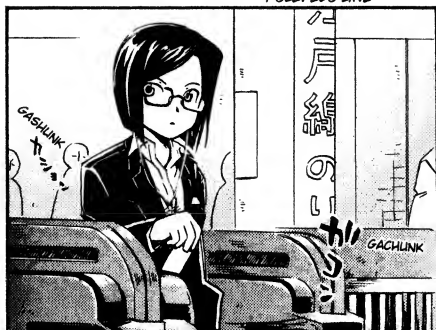


BOOK: PREDATOR AND PREY: THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE

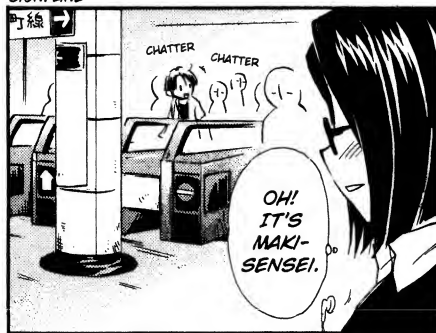




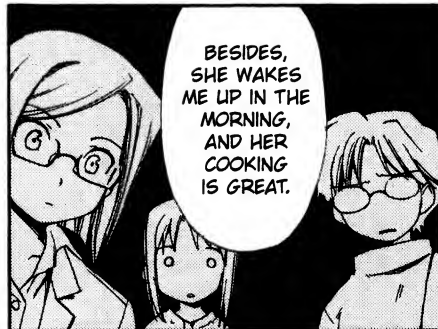
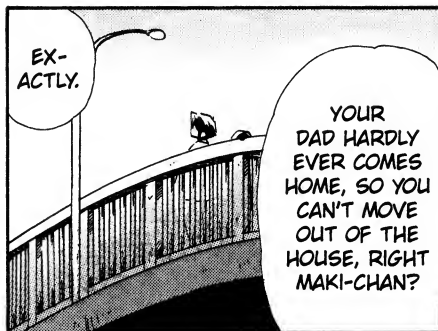
POLE: EDO LINE

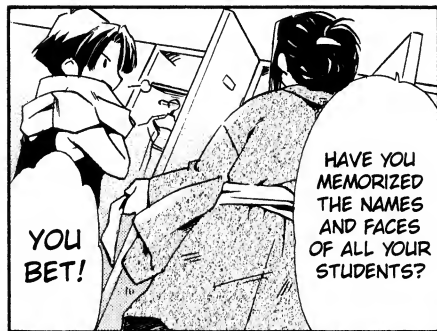
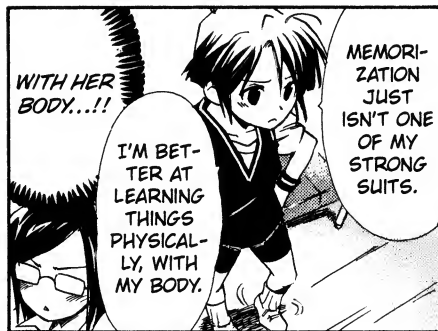


SIGN: LINE









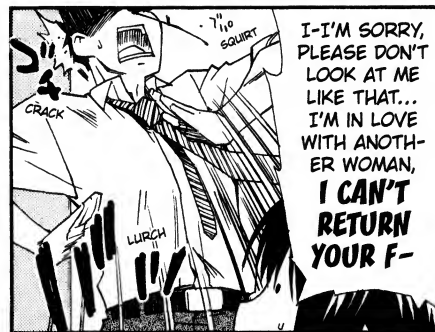
LIST (CONT.): MADOKA SUGAWA / ? HASHI / MIKO

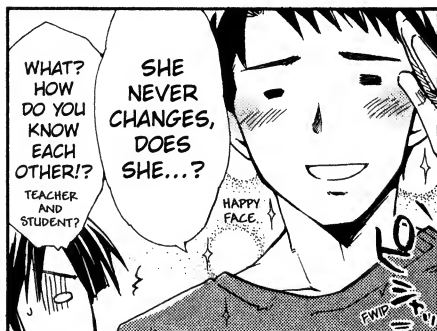


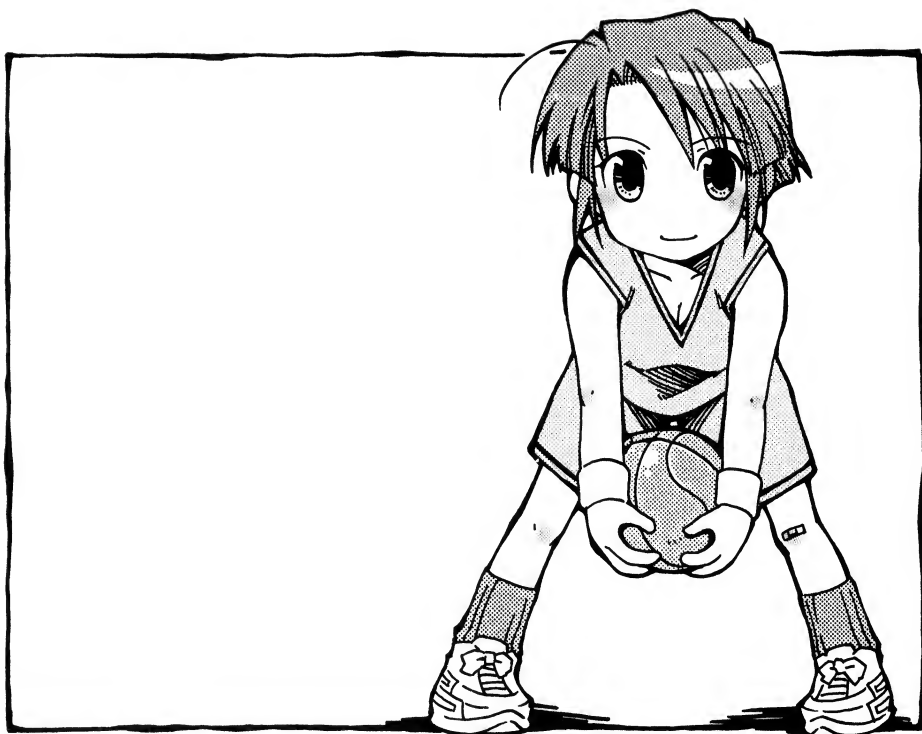
ENVELOPE: ¥10,000











THIS  
HAND...  
IT FEELS  
SO FA-  
MILIAR...



NAGUMO-  
SENSEI, MAKI-  
SENSEI, ARE  
YOU HEADING  
OFF TO CLUB  
ACTIVITIES?

YES,  
SIR!



HUH?  
NO!  
WAIT  
...!!

TAKE  
HIM  
DOWN!

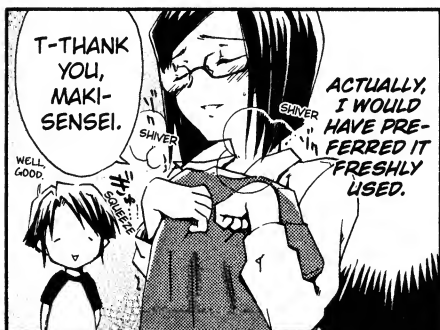
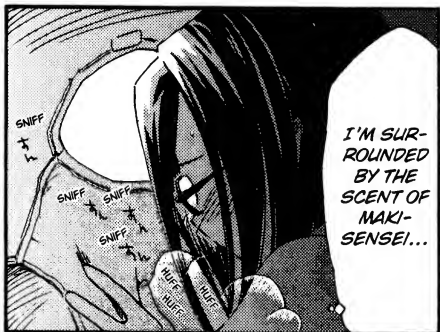
GO ON,  
MAKI-  
CHAN.  
TOSS  
HIM.

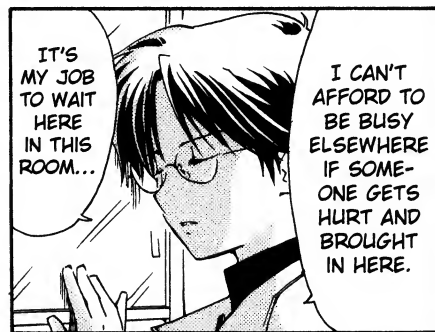
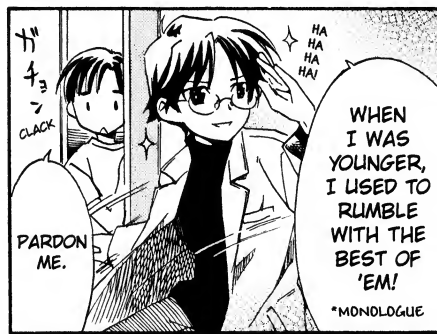
ARE  
YOU  
SURE?

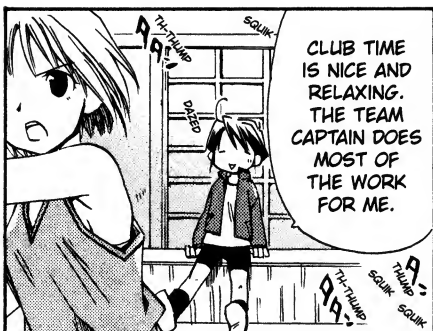


I'M  
EXPECT-  
ING GOOD  
GRADES  
FROM THE  
BOTH OF  
YOU!

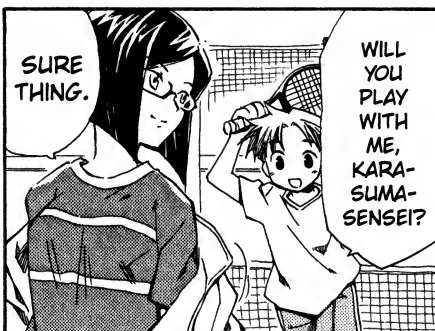








CLUB TIME IS NICE AND RELAXING. THE TEAM CAPTAIN DOES MOST OF THE WORK FOR ME.

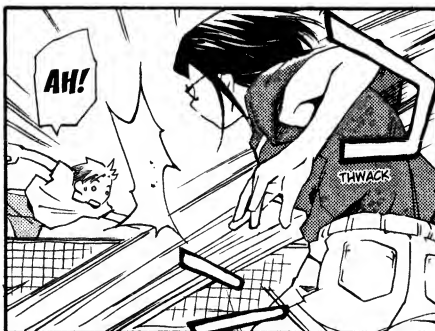


SURE THING.

WILL YOU PLAY WITH ME, KARASUMA-SENSEI?



HUIH? NII-CHAN?



AH!

THWACK



...WE'RE GONNA GET A TON OF THE GIRLS' BASKETBALL CLUB'S BUDGET !!

IF WE GO FAR IN THE NEXT TOURNAMENT...



HA HA...

WHEEZE  
WHEEZE

SHE'S REALLY TOUGH TODAY FOR SOME REASON.



...GETTING MY BUDGET.

YOU ARE NOT...

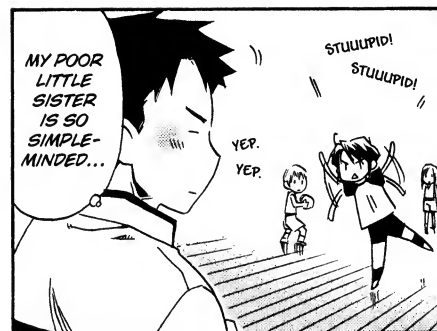
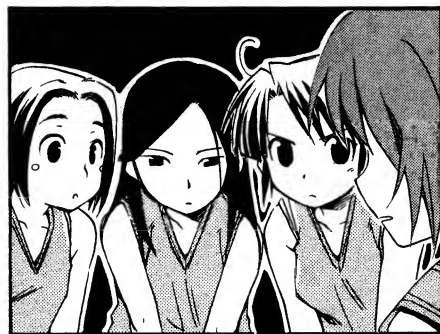


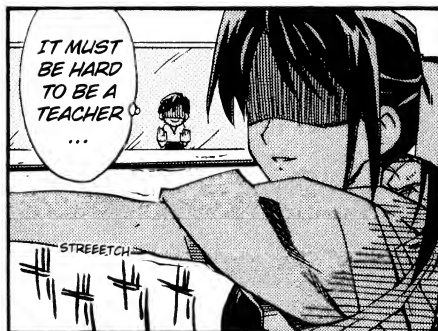
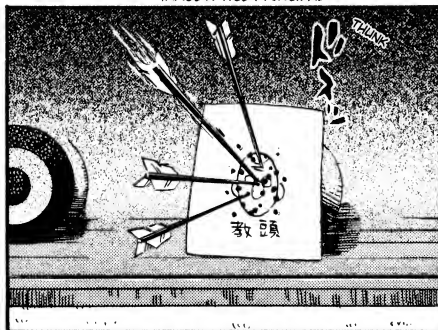
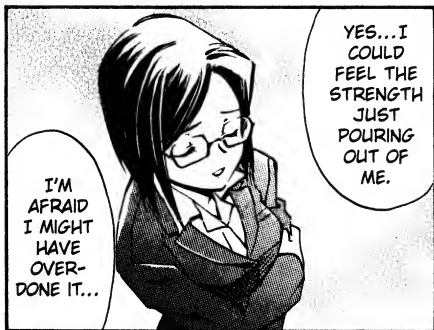
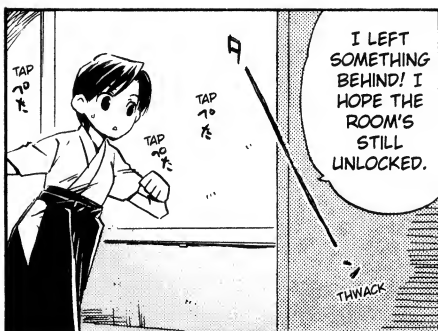
SHE SEEMS TO BE IN A GOOD MOOD FOR SOME REASON.

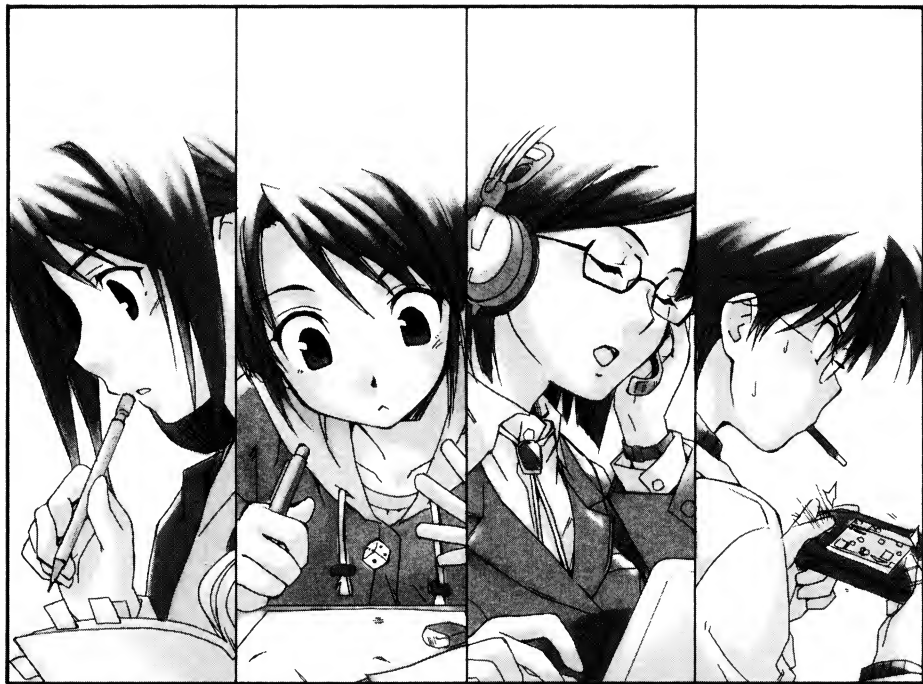
SIGH

I HAVE MAKI-SENSEI'S SPIRIT RESIDING WITHIN ME TODAY!!



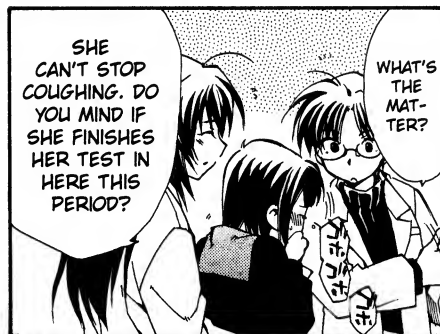
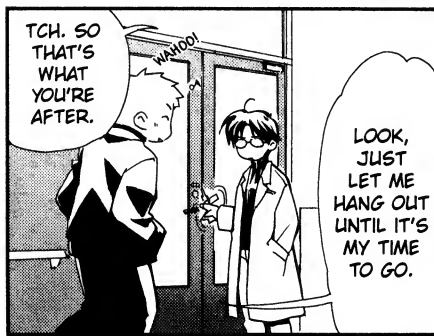
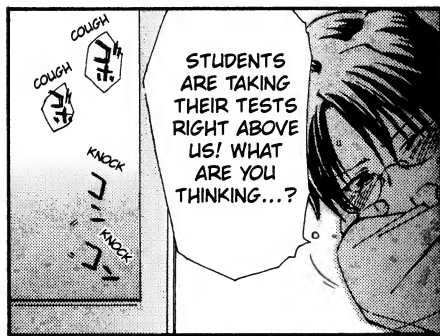


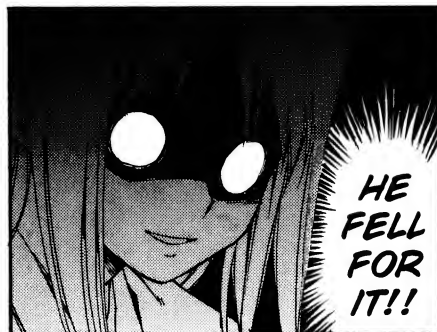
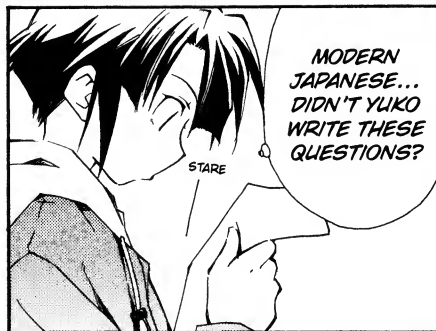
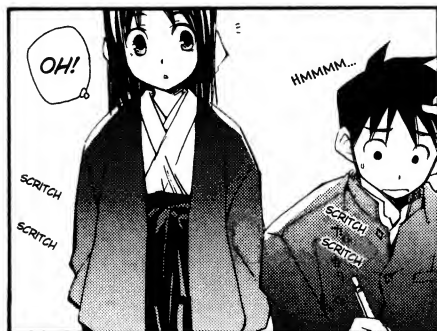


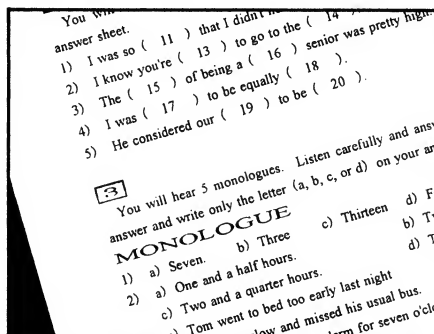
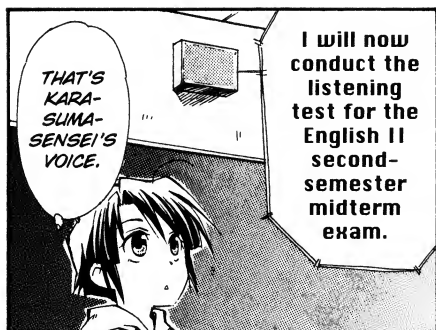


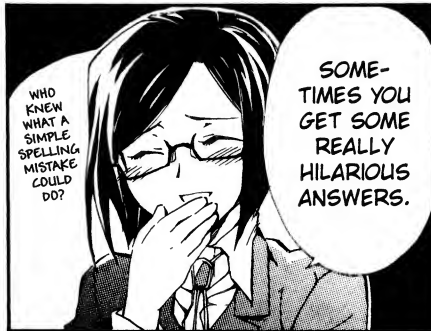
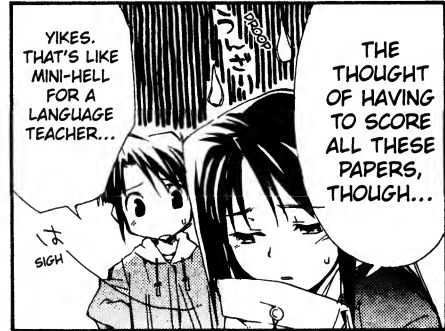
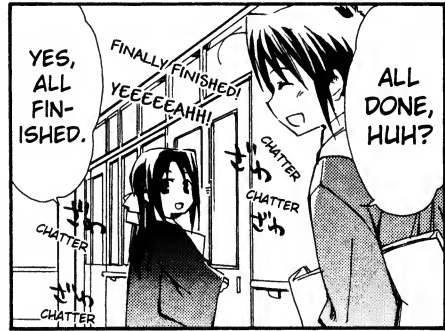














IT'S  
HARD TO  
CHOOSE  
A PLACE  
WITH SO  
MANY  
RESTAU-  
RANTS.



ARAI,  
WHADDAYA  
SAY WE GO  
OUT FOR  
MON-  
JAYAKI?

WHAT?

HE



WELL,  
MAKE IT  
QUICK.

I'M FREEZ-  
ING.

NO, I'LL  
DECIDE  
ON ONE  
NOW.

H-HEY,  
CAN I  
COME?

**THANKS  
FOR  
BUYING.**

IT  
AIN'T  
ON ME!

Panel 1: A character with long dark hair and a plaid shirt asks, "CAN YOU TELL FROM THE SCENT?". A character with short dark hair and a dark jacket looks down. A character with short dark hair and a light-colored shirt asks, "WHICH ONE? WHICH ONE?". There are several "SNIFF" sound effects with small sniffing icons around the characters.

YOU'RE  
LIKE A  
DOG.

WHICH  
ONE?  
WHICH  
ONE?

CAN  
YOU TELL  
FROM  
THE  
SCENT?

NO. GO HOME.  
AND TAKE CARE.

**NO. GO  
HOME.**

AND TAX  
CARE



YOU'RE  
USE-  
LESS...

NO.

THEY ALL  
SMELL  
THE  
SAME

**THAT'S  
NOT  
YOUR  
CALL.**

I THOUGHT  
YOU WERE  
SUPPOSED TO  
CHOOSE THE  
LOVE OF A  
MAN OVER THE  
FRIENDSHIP OF  
A WOMAN...

AND WHY  
THE SLIGHT  
KINDNESS?

47





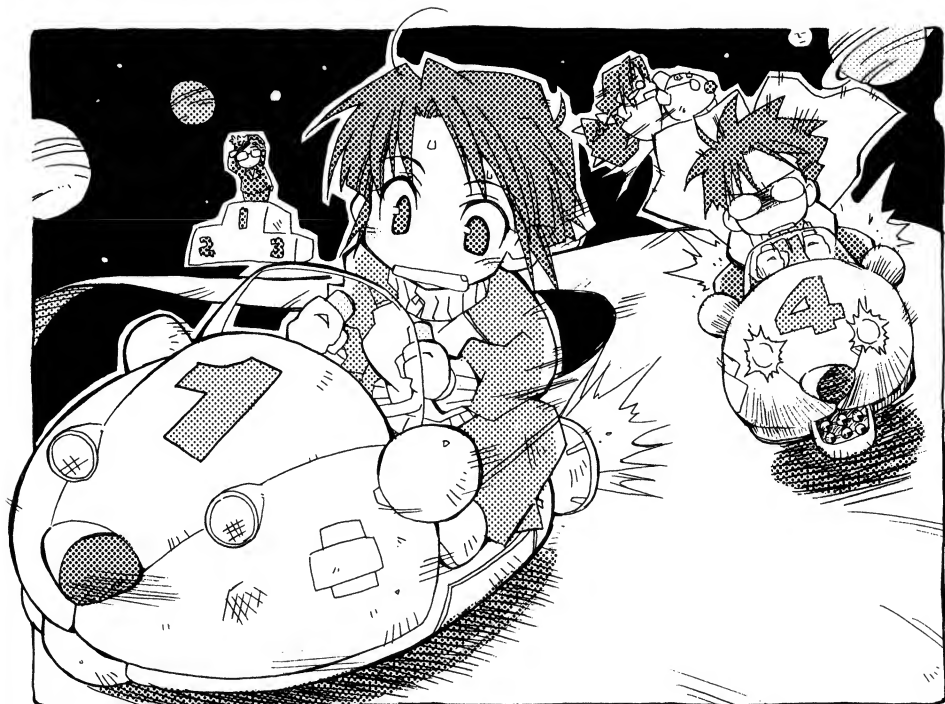
## SETSUNA ARAI

CLASS: NURSING TEACHER  
GENDER: MAIDEN  
PERSONALITY: SNIPPY  
LEVEL: 5

E: WHITE COAT  
E: NDS, PLATINUM WHITE  
E: PSP, BLACK  
E: GLASSES

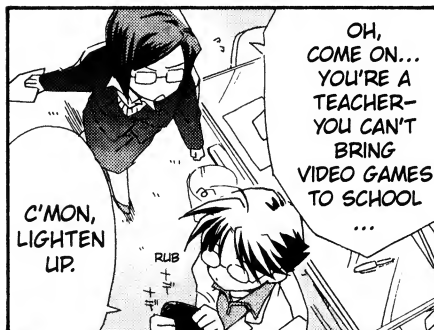
(SKIN) HEALTH POINTS: SMOOTH  
MENTAL POINTS: SEEMS TO BE A COMPATRIOT  
STRENGTH: LEAVE IT TO OTHERS  
SPEED: LAZY  
STAMINA: RATHER NOT USE IT  
INTELLIGENCE: GEEK  
LUCK: DO YOU EVER WIN SWEEPSTAKES?  
GUTS: STUBBORN

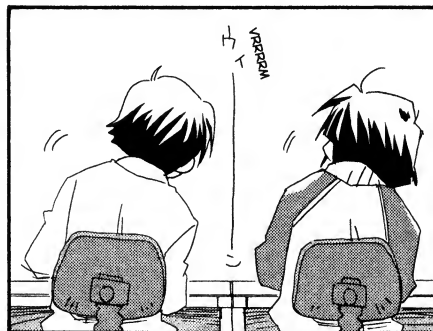
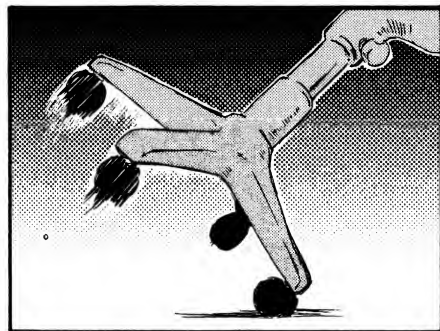
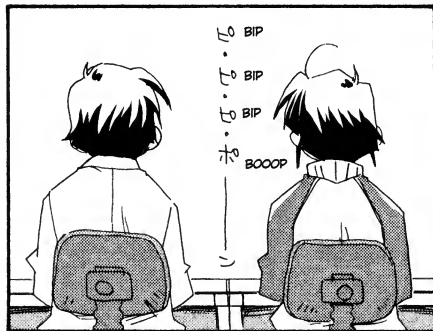
Y: I'LL ONLY BUY THINGS NEW.





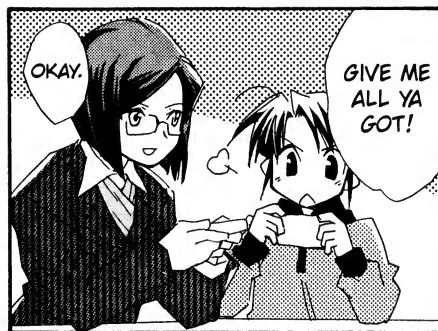










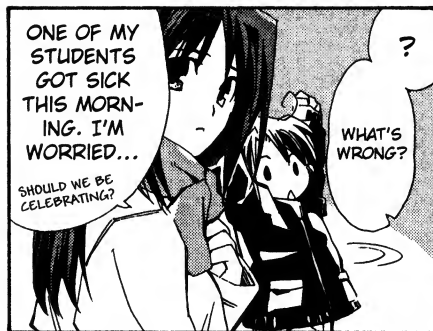




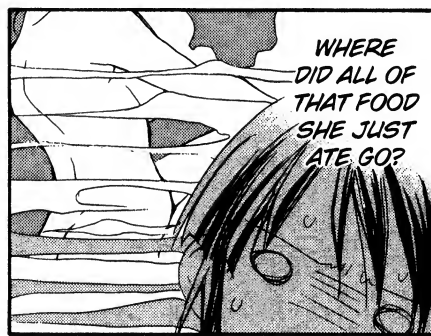
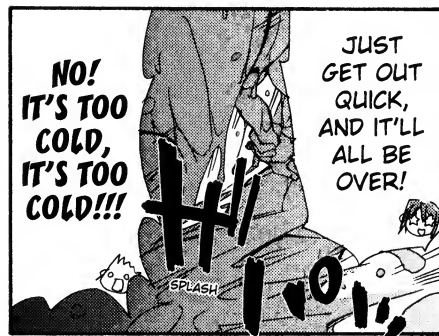
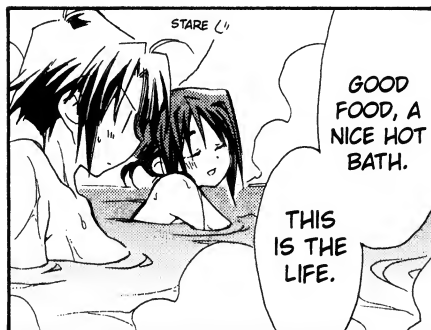
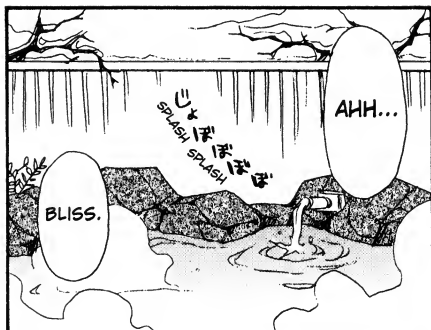
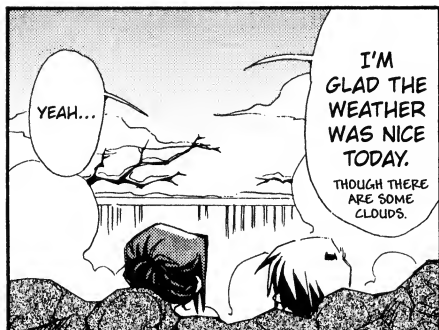
SFX: TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL

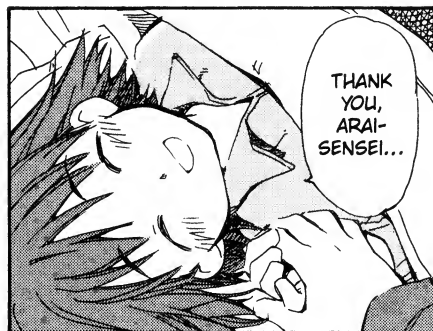


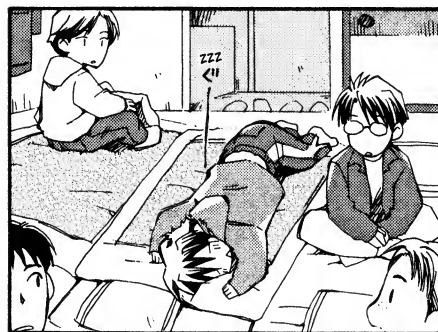
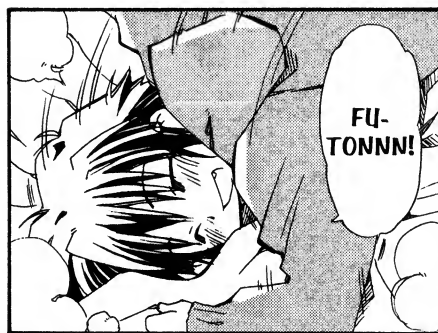
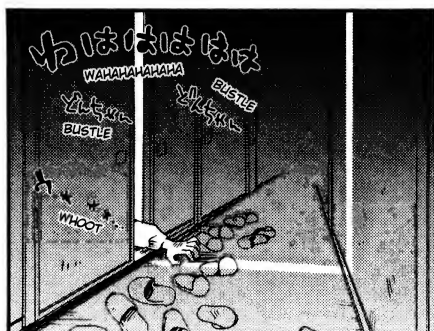


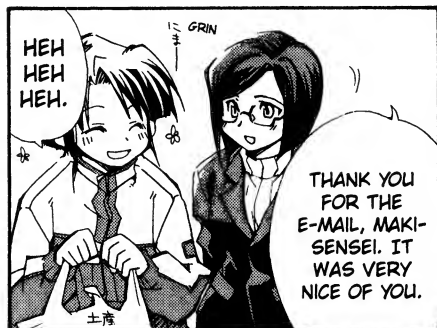
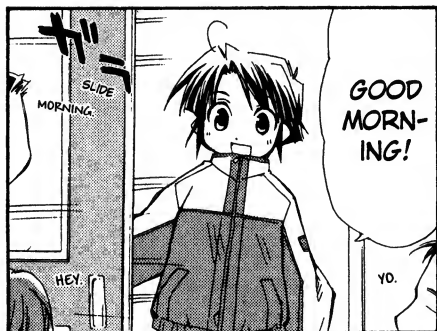






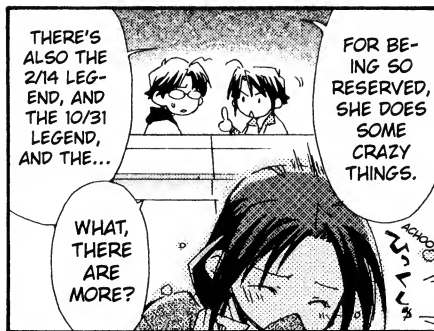
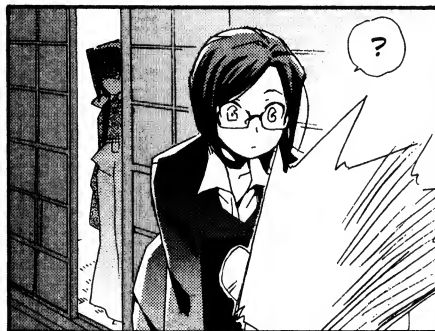
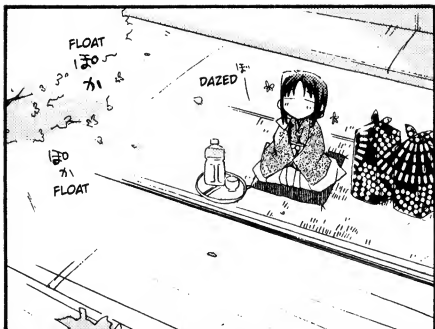
















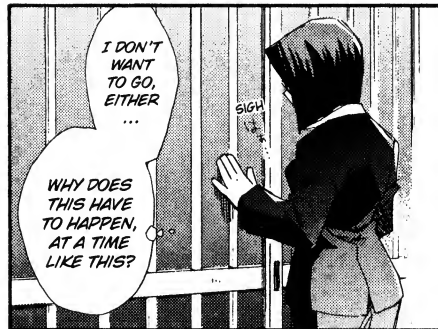
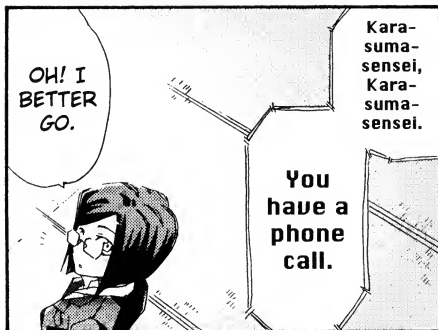
CAN: BEER MY FRIEND

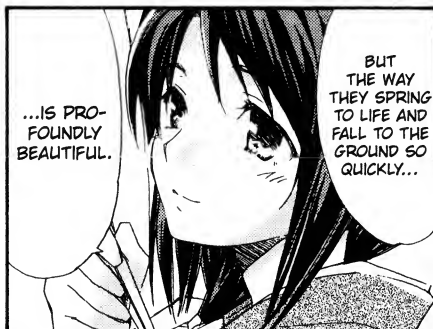
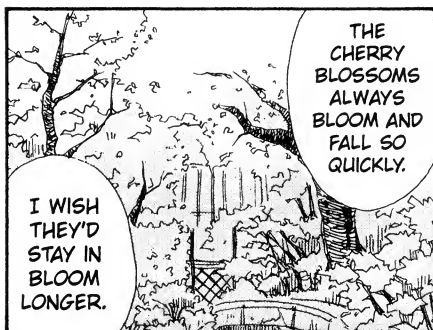


SFX: BOING

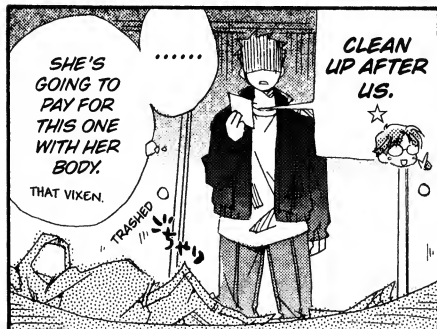








SIGN: OPEN DOOR QUIETLY





## YUKO NAGUMO

CLASS: LANGUAGE TEACHER

GENDER: FEMALE

PERSONALITY: GLUTTON

LEVEL: 3

E: HAKAMA

E: SHINMEIKAI JAPANESE DICTIONARY, 4TH ED.

E: MULTI-LEVEL BENTO

E: MATERIAL MEMO

(SKIN) HEALTH POINTS: PUFFY

MENTAL POINTS: THE FU SYMBOL

STRENGTH: GETS IT DONE WITH ATTITUDE

SPEED: EARLY PRINTING DISCOUNT

STAMINA: ALL ABOUT ENERGY DRINKS

INTELLIGENCE: MASTER OF IMAGINATION

LUCK: PLEASE TRY AGAIN

GUTS: GETS IT DONE

Y: NO ADDITIONAL INCOME



S.S. ASTRO

Asashio Sogo Teachers' Room



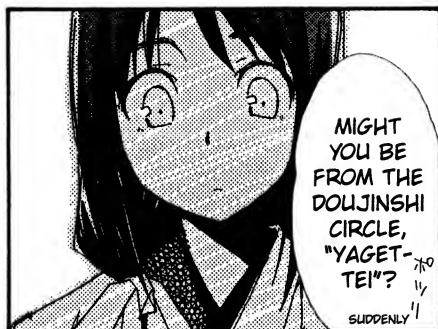








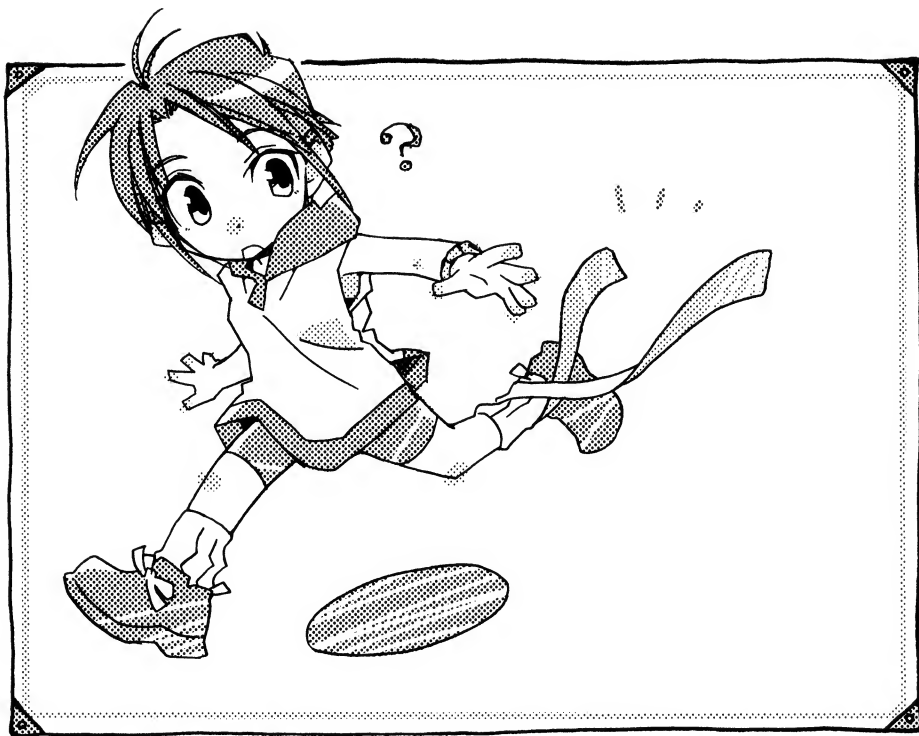




SFX: BA-DUMP BA-DUMP BA-DUMP BA-DUMP





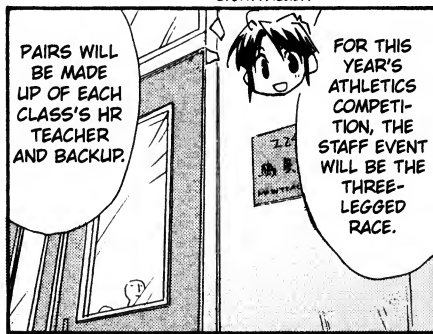


SIGN: FACULTY



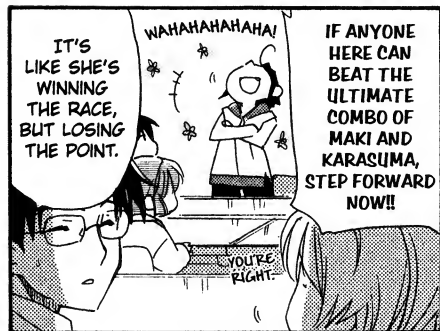
...TO  
DRAW  
UP THE  
RULES  
IN HER  
OWN  
FAVOR  
!!!

AS A  
MATTER  
OF FACT,  
IT IS THE  
SPECIAL  
PRIVILEGE  
OF THE  
P.E. COM-  
MITTEE  
MEMBER  
...



PAIRS WILL  
BE MADE  
UP OF EACH  
CLASS'S HR  
TEACHER  
AND BACKUP.

FOR THIS  
YEAR'S  
ATHLETICS  
COMPETI-  
TION, THE  
STAFF EVENT  
WILL BE THE  
THREE-  
LEGGED  
RACE.

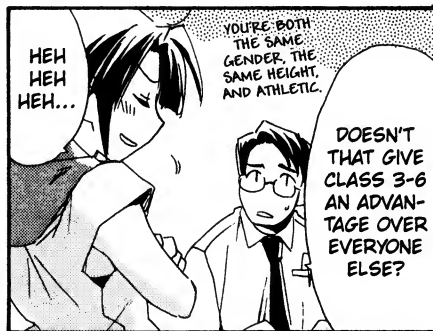


IT'S  
LIKE SHE'S  
WINNING  
THE RACE,  
BUT LOSING  
THE POINT.

WAAHAHAHAHA!

IF ANYONE  
HERE CAN  
BEAT THE  
ULTIMATE  
COMBO OF  
MAKI AND  
KARASUMA,  
STEP FORWARD  
NOW!!

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

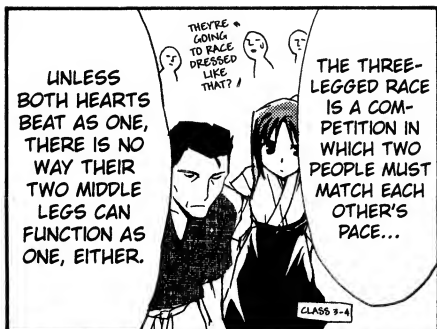


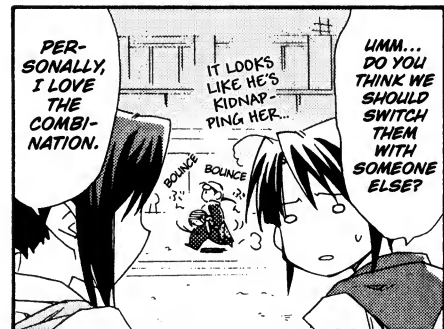
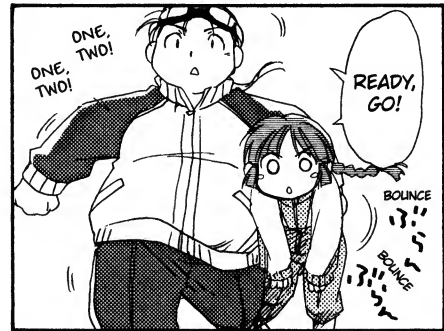
HEH  
HEH  
HEH...

YOU'RE BOTH  
THE SAME.  
GENDER, THE  
SAME HEIGHT,  
AND ATHLETIC.

DOESN'T  
THAT GIVE  
CLASS 3-6  
AN ADVAN-  
TAGE OVER  
EVERYONE  
ELSE?







FOREHEAD: FU







WHY?

I WOULDN'T GO TOO OVERBOARD WITH PRACTICING.



A THREE-LEGGED RACE...

KEEP THE CURTAINS CLOSED.

OOH!

CRUNCH  
CRUNCH



OH!

PANDEMONIUM!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

NOT EVERYONE IS SO YOUNG. THEY MIGHT GET HURT ON THE BIG DAY...



YOU KNOW, I THINK WE SHOULD JOIN THE THREE-LEGGED RACE...

HUH?

W'S FLUNCH



TOSS

BUT THAT SPEECH WAS JUST FOR SHOW.



Y-YOU CAN'T JUST BRING THAT UP OUT OF THE BLUE...

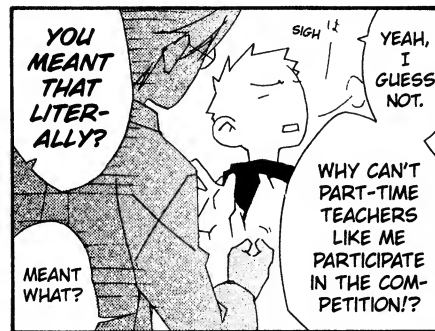
SQUEEZE



YOU'RE SUCH A SADISTIC NURSE...

IN REALITY, IF SOMEONE DOESN'T GET ENOUGH PRACTICE AND TRIPS, IT WILL RESULT IN GREAT MIRTH AND LAUGHTER FOR ALL AND MORE PATIENTS FOR ME! TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!!

HAHAHAHAHA



YOU MEANT THAT LITERALLY?

MEANT WHAT?

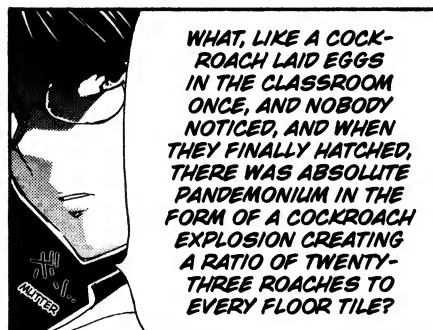
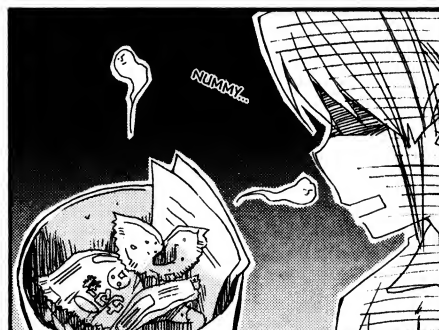
SIGH

YEAH, I GUESS NOT.

WHY CAN'T PART-TIME TEACHERS LIKE ME PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPETITION!?

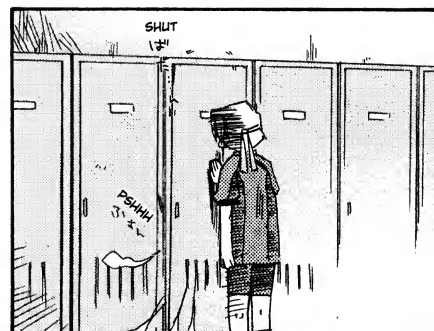
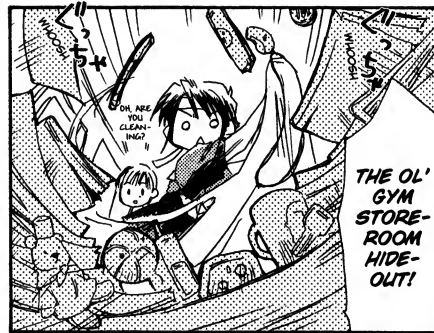
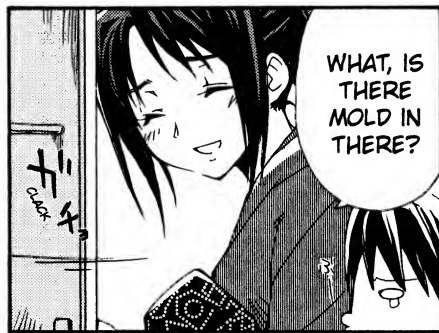
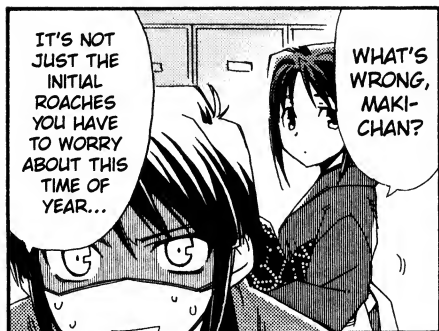


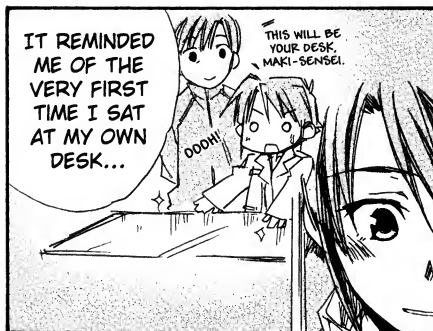
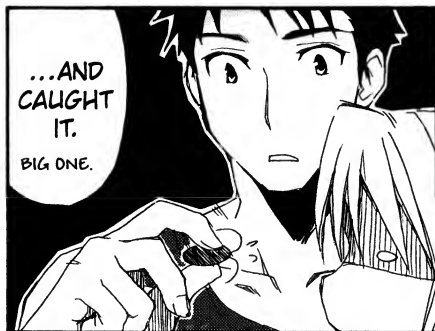
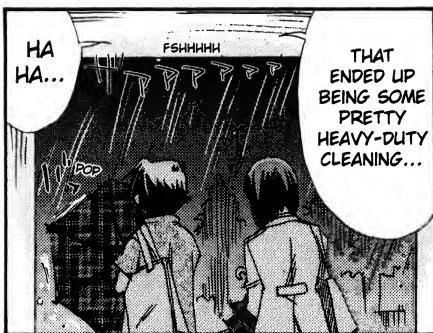




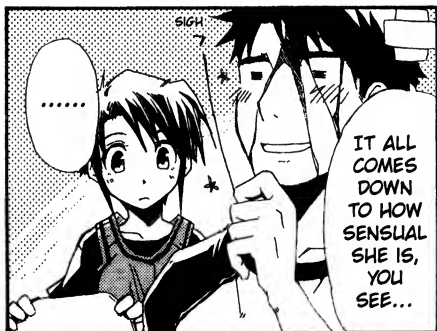




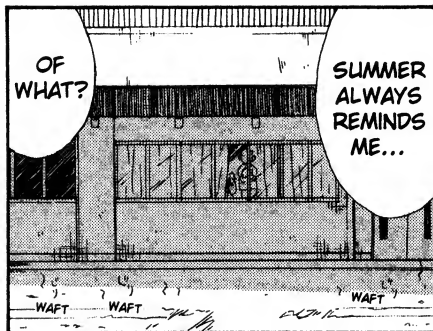








SIGH  
.....  
IT ALL COMES DOWN TO HOW SENSUAL SHE IS, YOU SEE...



OF WHAT?

SUMMER ALWAYS REMINDS ME...



I THINK SHE'S PRETTY WHEN SHE KEEPS HER MOUTH CLOSED, BUT...

...IS SHE REALLY THAT GREAT IN BED?

HEH HEH HEH.

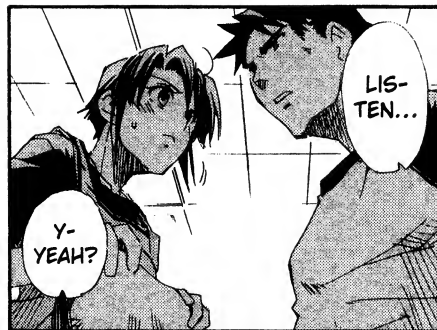


A YOUNG ARAI-SAN.

OF ARAI'S FIGURE IN A SWIMSUIT, IN YOUNGER DAYS.

EW!

SHORT



LIS-TEN...

Y-YEAH?



HER PRO-PORTIONS WERE RELATIVELY MODEST... BUT THAT WAS THE BEST PART!!

SHE COULDN'T SEE YOU WITHOUT HER GLASSES, SO IT WAS AN ALL-YOU-CAN-STARE-FEST!



OOPS, SORRY, MY FOOT SLIPPED.

SH-



SILENCE, MANIFESTATION OF LUST!













## KANAME KARASUMA

CLASS: FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER  
GENDER: YURI  
PERSONALITY: ROMANTIC  
LEVEL: 9

E: SKIRT SUIT  
E: DIGITAL CAMERA  
E: BLOODY HANDKERCHIEF  
E: GLASSES

(SKIN) HEALTH POINTS: SLIPPERY  
MENTAL POINTS: BUTT OF THE JOKE  
STRENGTH: WEAK ON THE FINISH  
SPEED: NEVER MISSES A PHOTO OP  
STAMINA: THERE'S NO BEATING AGE  
INTELLIGENCE: TRILINGUAL  
LUCK: HAPPINESS IN DEFEAT  
GUTS: ANYTHING FOR HER

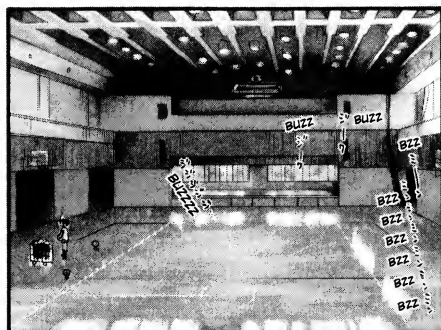
Y: IT'S ON ME!

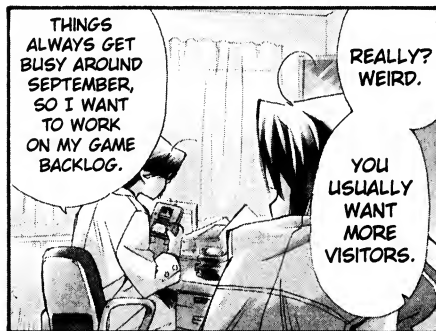
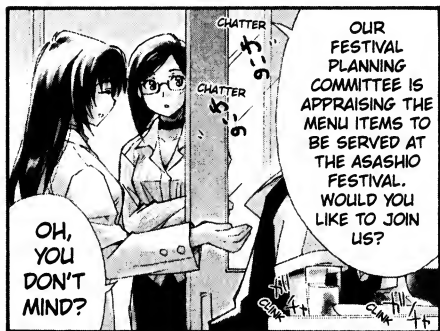


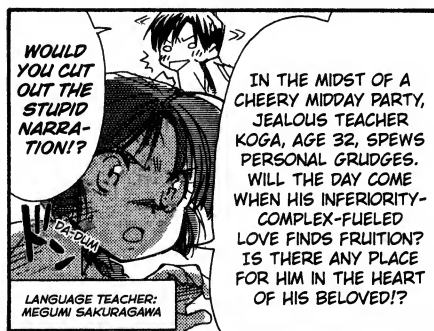
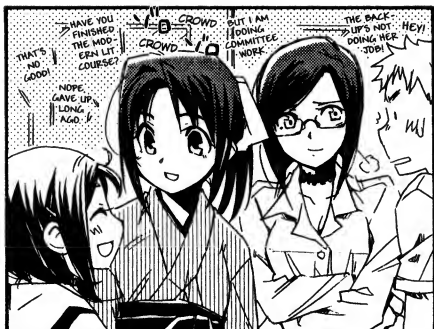
S.S. ASTRO

Asashio Sogo Teachers' Room

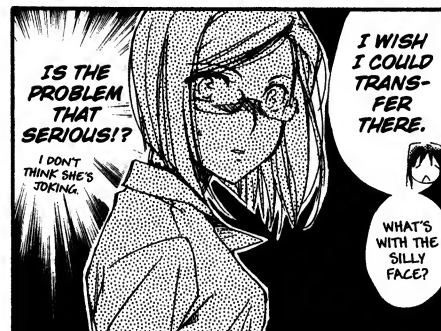
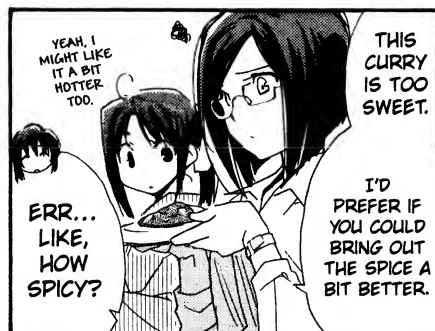
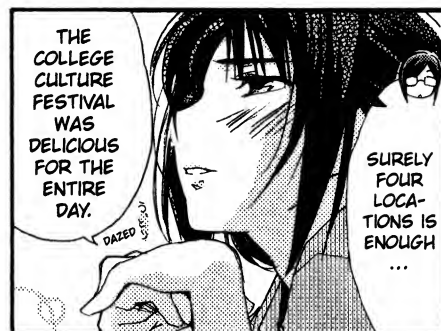
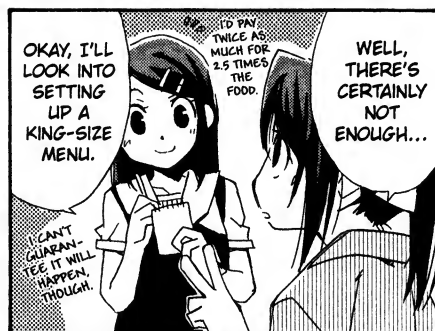
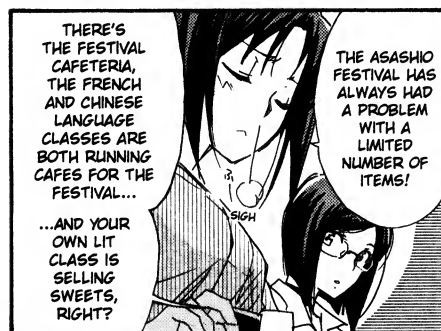










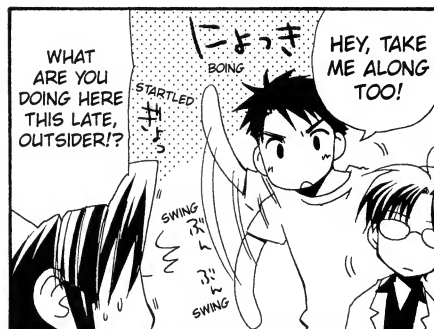








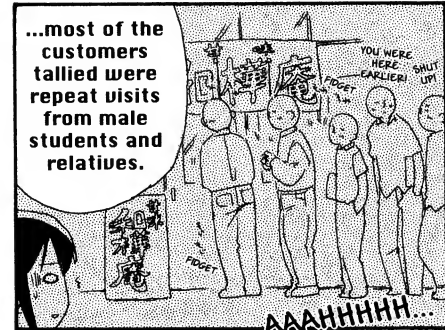
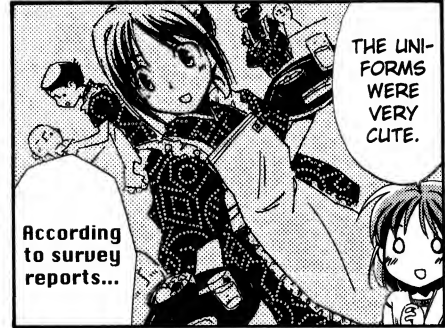
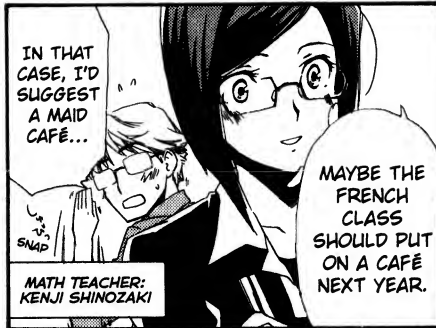
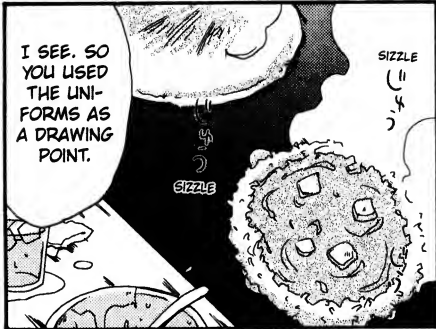
MUG: DRAFT







LABEL: PAY DIRT



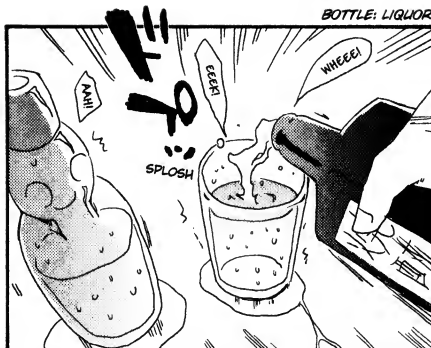






BOOK: CROSSING SUMMER

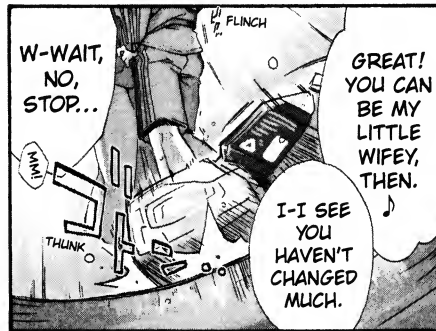
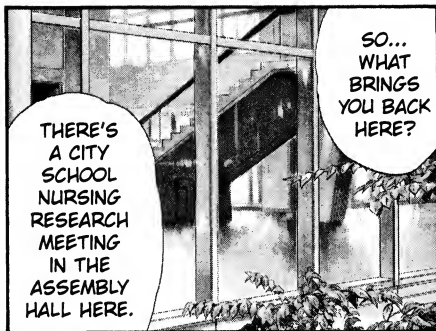


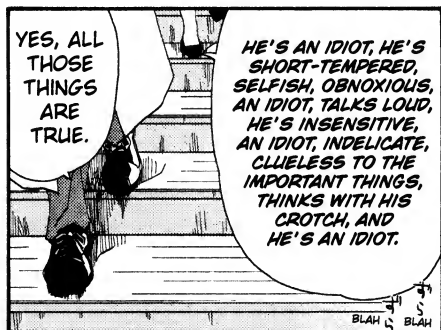






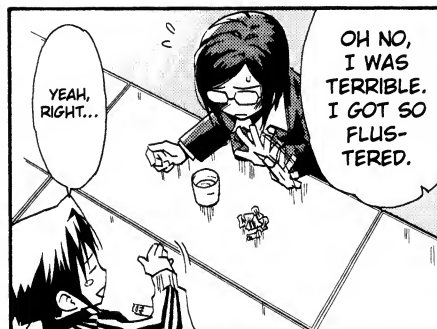






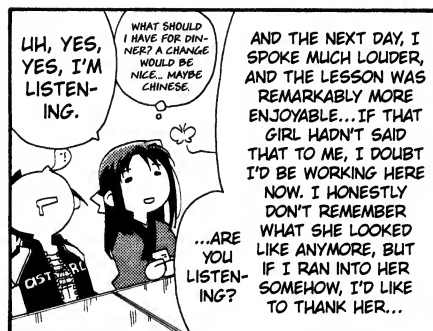
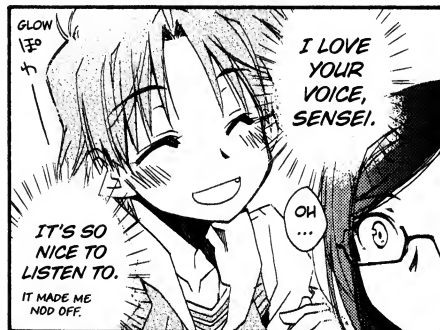


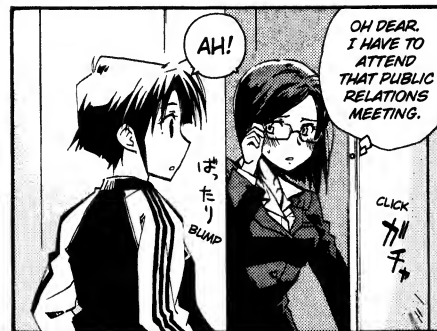
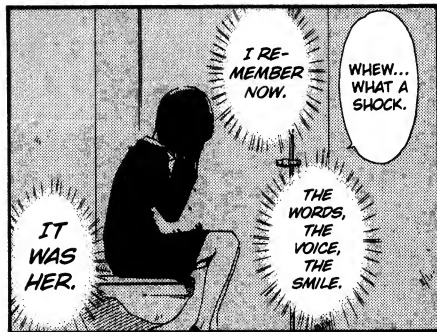
WRAPPER: NIMMY STICK CUP: FIFTH GRADUATING CLASS



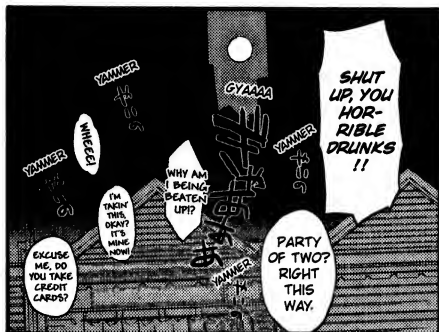
SFX: WIGGLE WIGGLE











ARAI-  
TENTEI  
EXPLAINS  
IT ALL!

EVERYONE  
WHO CALLED  
ME "NURSE,"  
STEP RIGHT UP.



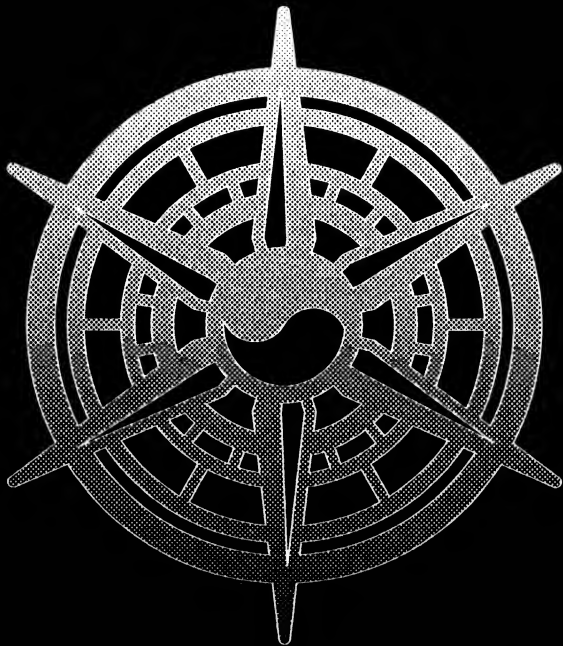
EXPLANATION \*

THE TEACHER WHO WORKS IN THE SCHOOL INFIRMARY IS KNOWN AS A "NURSING TEACHER." THE TITLES OF "NURSE" OR "DOCTOR" THAT APPEAR IN THIS MANGA ARE TECHNICALLY INCORRECT. THERE IS NO ACTUAL NURSE POSITION IN SCHOOL, AND AN ACTUAL NURSE'S WORK IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. ALSO, THE NURSING TEACHER IS NOT ACTUALLY AN INSTRUCTOR, BUT A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL, AND THUS TECHNICALLY A PART-TIME EMPLOYEE.

WE DON'T KNOW.  
THERE'S MAY OR  
MAY NOT BE A  
SECOND VOLUME.

IS THIS  
GOING  
TO BE A  
REGULAR  
FEATURE?





### The Asashio Integrated High School Symbol

This school badge is a representation of a telescope and compass. The far end of the horizon, as seen through the telescope finder in the middle, represents the unlimited future of the school's students, and the compass represents the guidance of the school's faculty, to keep the students from being lost upon entering the wide world of society. The six compass pointers symbolize the sixfold system of "information systems," "international business," "linguistic communication," "the fine arts," "society and business," and "natural science."

# S.S. ASTRO<sub>1</sub>

Asashio Sogo Teachers' Room

Special Thanks. Tokyo metro HS senior high school , OGS , OBS , Teachers  
Y.Ito K.Noguchi GLAY GLASSES  
my Family H.Kobayashi

2007. Feb. Negi Banno Thank you for reading! 

# TRANSLATION NOTES

Throughout the series Izumi addresses herself with *ore*, the masculine form of “I,” rather than the unisex/formal *watashi* or the casual, feminine *atashi*. It’s indicative of how much of a tomboy she is.

While the yen-to-dollar value is constantly fluctuating, a quick conversion is ¥100 = \$1.

page 2

The red stamps in the upper right corner of these profiles are personalized signature stamps called ***hanko***. Every Japanese adult has their own *hanko*, marked with the kanji of their name, which is used to authorize official documents instead of a written signature.

page 6-7

***Soba*** is a type of traditional noodle made from buckwheat, which makes it darker and more grainy than ramen. It is often served in a square dish with a small cup of broth to dip the noodles into.

***Monjayaki*** is a regional cousin of the famous *okonomiyaki*. These dishes are made by pouring batter onto a grill, much like pancakes, but with savory ingredients and meat or seafood. Okonomiyaki comes from western Japan around Osaka and Kyoto, while monjayaki is a specialty of eastern Japan near Tokyo. Based on the frequency that this appears in the manga, we can guess that the author is a big fan.

page 9

***Homeroom teacher***: The Japanese version of “homeroom” is similar to the American, but not quite the same. Unlike Western schools, in which students attend homeroom for roll call and announcements and then walk to their different teachers’ classrooms according to personal schedule, Japanese homerooms are where students spend most of the day, while it is the teachers who travel from class to class to teach their subjects. In addition, students are given more duties through homeroom, including school clean-up and planning for activities such as school fairs.



page 13

Along with the ultra-formal tone of voice and dress, Yuko-sensei's bowing while kneeling on top of the desk is quite out of place at school. In fact, it's unlikely that most Japanese would ever encounter this type of bowing in their lives outside of a tea ceremony, and those are rare enough in contemporary Japan.

page 14

**Asleep fist:** This is a parody of the Hong Kong kung-fu movie staple, the "drunken fist," in which the character gets drunk to use a special kind of kung-fu.

page 19

**Tentei:** This is not an actual Japanese suffix, it's just a babyish mispronunciation of *sensei*.

page 20

**Engel's coefficient:** The proportion of a household's total purchases which go toward buying food. Introduced in Engel's law, which states that as income rises, the proportion of money spent on food decreases.

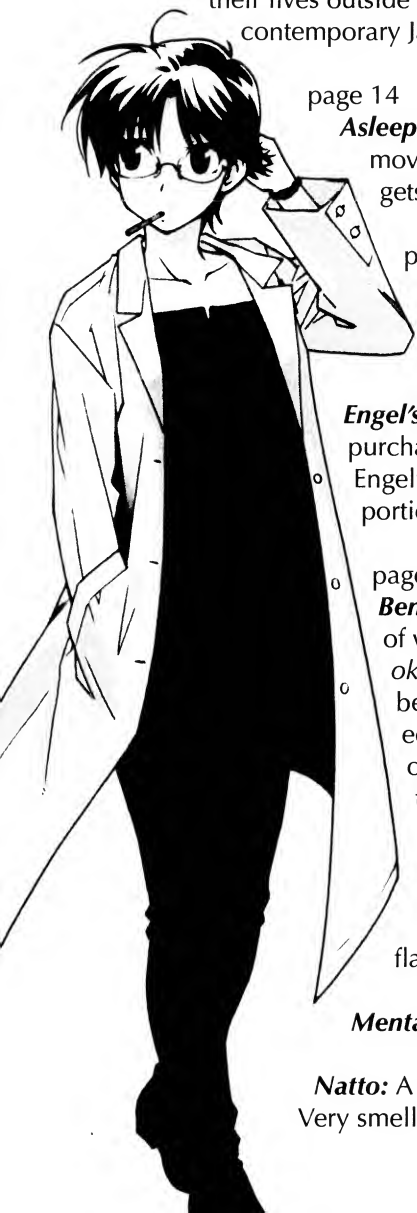
page 23

**Bento:** A traditional Japanese boxed lunch consisting of white rice and several different toppings (known as *okazu*) in separate compartments. The multi-layered bento that Yuko-sensei is seen eating from is the equivalent of a multi-course meal and would be overkill for a packed lunch, not to mention impractical to lug around.

**Nummy Stick:** A parody ("Umaa Bo") of the real-life snack *Umai Bo*, or "Yummy Stick," which is a puffed corn snack that comes in many different flavors, including mentaiko and natto.

**Mentaiko:** Marinated pollock (a type of fish) eggs.

**Natto:** A traditional dish made with fermented soybeans. Very smelly and sticky.





page 25

This is a parody of RPG video game status screens, particularly *Dragon Quest*. The “closet pervert” personality is a feature from *Dragon Quest III*, and the “E” refers to items which the character is currently equipping.

page 54

**Bishoujo games:** A genre of computer games wherein the player must romance *bishoujo* (“pretty girls”) in ways that can be either suitable for minors or not. What Setsuna is insinuating — and Yuko is trying to cover up — is the fact that Yuko enjoys playing yaoi games featuring gay men.

page 56

Many schools in Japan have a once-a-year field trip for the entire school. While Kyoto is a common destination for Tokyo area schools due to its many historic sights, the southern island of Okinawa, which is warm year-round and resembles Hawaii, is perhaps the most popular.

page 64

**Hanami**, or “flower viewing,” is a traditional activity undertaken during the short period of the spring months when *sakura* (cherry blossom) trees are in flower. A typical practice is to set down blankets underneath the flowering trees and hold a party with food and sake.

Yuko’s sneeze while the other teachers are talking about her is based on the Japanese belief that a sudden sneeze means someone is talking about you.

page 69

**The Fu symbol:** The “mental points” section of these character bios has a hidden meaning; it actually refers to their predilection for girly “otaku” fetishes, most specifically the *yaoi* or BL (boy’s love) subculture. Imagining situations in which fictional male characters might be gay and attracted to each other is a common activity for what the Japanese call *fujoshi*, a pun on the word for “lady” that, when spelled with a different kanji, means “dirty woman.” This self-mocking term, used by fans of yaoi/BL to describe themselves, refers to the “shameful” or “dirty” fantasies that they hold. The fu symbol is the kanji for “dirty,” and is shown on Yuko’s forehead in this story when she is imagining such connections between her male coworkers.

page 72

**108 characters:** This is a reference to the *Suikoden* videogame series. The *Suikoden* RPG games are based on a classic Chinese novel that features 108 characters known as the 108 Stars. One of the features of the *Suikoden* series is that the player can recruit and use all 108 of these characters in each game.

page 76

**Seme:** In yaoi material, there is a very common dynamic called *seme/uke*. Seme refers to the dominant member of a partnership, while uke refers to the submissive member.

**Doujinshi circle:** A *doujinshi* is a fan-published magazine of drawn and/or written material, the bread and butter of otaku and fujoshi subculture. They are often made by groups of people, known as “circles,” which might be gathered together as students of the same college, fans of a particular manga/anime series or even a specific character pairing. A circle will typically put together a *dojinshi* for sale at events organized a few times a year, such as Comic Market.

page 87

**Initial R:** A joke combining the first letter of “roach” with the popular street racing manga/anime, *Initial D*.

page 95

**Yuri:** As yaoi refers to depictions of gay men, yuri is its counterpart featuring lesbian women.

page 104

**Ramune:** A well-known brand of lemon-lime flavored Japanese soft drink. The glass bottle version comes with a special dimple in the neck that holds a glass marble once the top has been popped. It is drunk most often in the summer months.

**GJ:** Online gaming or IM shorthand for “good job.”

page 108

**The Me Who Leapt Through Time:** A play on a famous Japanese 1960s sci-fi short story, *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*. The story has been adapted to television and film multiple times, most recently in the 2006 animated film of the same name.



# S.S. ASTRO ①

**NEGI BANNO**

**Translation: Stephen Paul**

**Lettering: Alexis Eckerman**

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